



Disaster News

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DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS IN HENRY AND DALE COUNTIES TO CLOSE WEDNESDAY: ONE OPEN IN ENTERPRISE

Disaster Assistance Still Readily Available

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Disaster Recovery Centers operating in Henry and Dale Counties will close at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21, due to reduced activity, officials from the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency announced today.

"The reduced level of activity at the centers means we are moving forward in the recovery process," said Gracia Szczech, federal coordinating officer for disaster recovery. "It's important that disaster survivors know that even though these sites are closing, the same assistance programs are still available to them through FEMA's toll-free number and FEMA's website."

Individuals who suffered losses as a result of the tornadoes of March 1 are encouraged to visit these Disaster Recovery Centers before they close this Wednesday evening.

The Disaster Recovery Center located at the Enterprise Recreation Center in Enterprise, is the last remaining recovery center that will be open after March 21. This center is open to residents of any affected county.

| Coffee County |
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| Enterprise Recreation Center 421 East Lee Street Enterprise, Alabama |
| Open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday Open noon to 6 p.m., Sunday |

Representatives of state, federal and voluntary agencies are on hand to answer questions and provide recovery information. Officials from the U.S. Small Business Administration are available to discuss disaster loans for homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes. Written materials about various assistance programs are also available to individuals and business owners.

(MORE)

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Officials encourage all tornado victims to apply for assistance by calling the FEMA toll-free application number at **(800) 621-FEMA (3362)** or **(TTY) (800) 462-7585** for speech- or hearing-impaired, or visiting the FEMA website at www.fema.gov.

FEMA manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident, initiates mitigation activities and manages the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA works closely with state and local emergency managers, law enforcement personnel, firefighters and other first responders. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, economic status or retaliation. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, you should call FEMA toll-free at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or contact your State Office of Equal rights. If suspicious of any abuse of FEMA programs, please contact the fraud hotline at 1-800-323-8603.

FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

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Editors: For more information on Alabama disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or www.ema.alabama.gov /